

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended): A taste masking composition comprising (a) micropellets ~~containing an each of which comprises~~ antibiotic particles wherein said micropellets have (b) an inner coating on the antibiotic particles ~~consisting essentially of~~ comprising at least one cellulose polymer selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethylethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, ethylcarboxyethyl cellulose, and combinations thereof and (c) an outer coating comprising an enteric coating polymer disposed on the inner coating, wherein said coated micropellets have a particle size of about 100 μm to about 650 μm .

Claim 2. (Currently Amended): ~~The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the antibiotic has~~ A taste masking composition comprising (a) micropellets comprising antibiotic particles having a particle size of about 0.1 μm to about 100 μm wherein said micropellets have (b) an inner coating on the antibiotic particle consisting essentially of at least one cellulose polymer selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethylethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, ethylcarboxyethyl cellulose, and combinations thereof and (c) an outer coating on the inner coating comprising an enteric coating polymer, wherein said coated micropellets have a particle size of about 100 μm to about 650 μm .

Claim 3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the cellulose polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose and hydroxypropyl cellulose.

Claim 5. (Original): The composition according to Claim 4, wherein the cellulose polymer is hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose.

Claim 6. (Original): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the enteric coating is selected from the group consisting of cross-linked polyvinyl pyrrolidone; non-cross linked polyvinylpyrrolidone; hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose phthalate, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose acetate succinate, cellulose acetate succinate; cellulose acetate phthalate, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose acetate succinate, cellulose acetate trimellitate, hydroxypropyl

Application No. 10/688.551
June 19, 2008

methyl cellulose phthalate; hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose acetate succinate; starch acetate phthalate; polyvinyl acetate phthalate; carboxymethyl cellulose; methyl cellulose phthalate; methyl cellulose succinate; methyl cellulose phthalate succinate; methyl cellulose phthalic acid half ester; ethyl cellulose succinate; carboxymethylamide; potassium methacrylatedivinylbenzene copolymer; polyvinylalcohols; polyoxyethyleneglycols; polyethylene glycol; sodium alginate; galactomannane; carboxypolymethylene; sodium carboxymethyl starch; copolymers of acrylic acid and/or methacrylic acid with at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of methyl methacrylate, ethyl methacrylate, ethyl acrylate, butyl methacrylate, hexyl methacrylate, decyl methacrylate, lauryl methacrylate, phenyl methacrylate, methyl acrylate, isopropyl acrylate, isobutyl acrylate, and octadecyl acrylate; polyvinyl acetate; fats; oils; waxes; fatty alcohols; shellac; gluten; ethylacrylate-maleic acid anhydride copolymer; maleic acid anhydride-vinyl methyl ether copolymer; styrol-maleic acid copolymer; 2-ethyl-hexyl-acrylate maleic acid anhydride; crotonic acid-vinyl acetate copolymer; glutaminic acid/glutamic acid ester copolymer; carboxymethylethylcellulose glycerol monooctanoate; polyarginine; poly(ethylene); poly(propylene); poly(ethylene oxide); poly(ethylene terephthalate); poly(vinyl isobutyl ether); poly(vinyl chloride); polyurethane, and combinations thereof.

Claim 7. (Original): The composition according to Claim 6, wherein the enteric coating is selected from the group consisting of a copolymer of methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate, and a copolymer of methacrylic acid and ethyl acrylate.

Claim 8. (Original): The composition according to Claim 7, wherein the enteric coating is a poly(methacrylic acid, ethyl acrylate)1:1.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended): A taste masking composition comprising micropellets each of which includes (a) bitter-tasting antibiotic particles, The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of antibiotic is from about 1 wt. % to about 80 wt. %, based on the total weight of the micropellet, (b) an inner coating on the antibiotic particles consisting essentially of at least one cellulose polymer selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, carboxymethylethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, ethylcarboxyethyl cellulose, and combinations thereof and (c) an outer coating on the inner coating comprising an enteric

Application No. 10/688.551
June 19, 2008

coating polymer, wherein said coated micropellets have a particle size of about 100 μm to about 650 μm .

Claim 10. (Original): The composition according to Claim 9, wherein the amount of antibiotic is from about 5 wt. % to about 50 wt. %, based on the total weight of the micropellet.

Claim 11. (Original): The composition according to Claim 10, wherein the amount of antibiotic is from about 20 wt. % to about 35 wt. %, based on the total weight of the micropellet.

Claim 12. (Original): The composition according to Claim 1 in the form of an oral suspension, capsule, caplet, powder, or tablet.

Claim 13. (Original): An oral suspension comprising the composition according to Claim 1.

Claims 14-20. (Cancelled)